

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

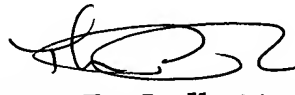
Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Final Rejection that claims 22-24, 26, and 27 are allowed and claim 21 is allowable. Allowable claim 21 has been amended to include the features of base claim 19. Therefore, allowance of claim 21 is warranted.

Claims 17-20 and 25 have been cancelled, thereby obviating the rejections applied thereto.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

 Reg # 31, 6 & 9

Date: December 27, 2006

JEL/DWW/att

Attorney Docket No. L9289.02131

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